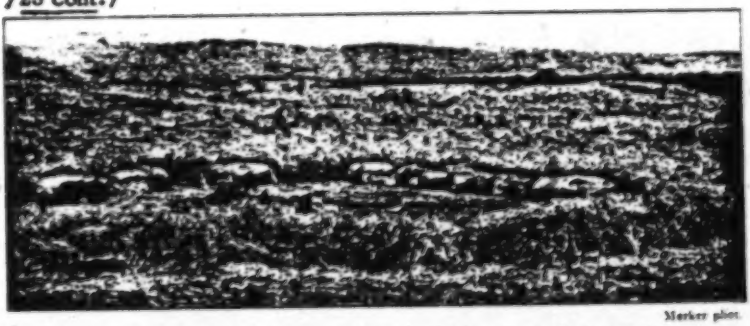
/23 cont./

361
133



Merker phot.

Ill. 5. Kraal on the steppe between Kilimandscharo and Meruberg.

342 out of material available everywhere. Like every task in the
[462] kraal, hut construction is the duty of the women. After the site for the individual hut (Fig. 3) is cleared of grass and brush and then leveled, the spiral-oval ground plan is undertaken in that
[804] the woman scratches it on the ground with her foot. They do not use any auxiliary means for measuring it; measuring by eye is sufficient for the woman who, even as a child, helped her mother with this work. Into the ground plan, at foot-long intervals, poles
342 (ol ōmi, el ōm) about 1 1/2 meters long are stuck in the ground
335 and joined lattice-like with thumb-thick cross-switches (ol gereni, el gerenen). Then in the longitudinal diagonal seven to eight supports (em bogischi) are dug in, over which a longitudinal bar (ol ereschena, el ereschenan) is put from one end of the hut to the other. Over this the poles are arched and the opposite ends lashed
[284] together with papyrus grass (es sedja). By interplaiting finger-
[824] thick switches (en jaschoi, n jascho) walls /24/ and roof are made
342 tight. The lattice-like framework is about 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 meters high, 4 to 5 meters long and 3 meters wide. Neats' skins served
[237] principally for roofing before the rinderpest raged among the
[731] livestock around the year 1890. Now, /Figs. 2 and 3 appear here/
[824] when the Masai herds have become vanishing small in contrast
[237] to former times, the switch framework is first packed with a layer of dry, long-bladed grass (ol gudjeda or ol godjeda) 15 to